AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An expression system ~~according to Claim 1, wherein the expression system~~comprising a DNA sequence, wherein said DNA sequence encodes a fusion protein comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 46-51.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An expression system comprising a DNA sequence encoding a fusion protein, wherein said DNA~~according to Claim 8, wherein the expression system comprises a~~ sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 34-39.

12. (Currently Amended) A bacterial expression vector comprising the expression system ~~according to Claim 1~~of claim 10 or claim 11 cloned into a plasmid.

13-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A bacterial expression vector ~~according to Claim 15, wherein the bacterial expression vector comprises~~ comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQ ID NOS: 40-43~~SEQ ID NOS: 40-45.

17. (Currently Amended) A prokaryotic cell transformed with the bacterial expression vector ~~according to~~of Claim 12.

18. (Previously Presented) The prokaryotic cell ~~according to~~of Claim 17, wherein the prokaryotic cell is an *E. coli* cell.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a toxic membrane protein or a transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein by genetic recombination, comprising the following steps:

transforming a host cell with the expression ~~system according to~~vector of ~~Claim 1~~Claim 12 or Claim 16,

[[-]] culturing the transformed host cell under culture conditions such that it produces a fusion protein comprising the dipeptide Asp-Pro followed by the peptide sequence of the toxic membrane protein or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein from the expression vector, and

[[-]] isolating the fusion protein.

20. (Previously Presented) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 19, wherein the method further comprises the following step:

cleaving the fusion protein so as to recover the toxic membrane protein or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein.

21. (Previously Presented) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 20, wherein the step of cleaving the fusion protein so as to recover the toxic membrane protein or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein is carried out by reacting the fusion protein with formic acid.

22. (Previously Presented) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 19, wherein the host cell is an *E. coli* cell.

23. (Currently Amended) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 19, wherein the expression system ~~encodes a fusion protein having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 46-51~~is the expression system of Claim 10.

24. (Currently Amended) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 19, wherein the expression system ~~comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 34-39~~is the expression system of Claim 11.

25. (Currently Amended) The method ~~according to~~of Claim 19, wherein the expression vector ~~comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 40-45~~ is the expression vector of Claim 16.

26. (Canceled).